airconditioners, refrigerators, blowing foams and as cleaning agents is in the electronic industry; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) So far, 13 proposals have been received, including those from the refrigeration industry in the country.

(c) A Task Force has been set up by the Department of Industrial Development, Ministry of Industry, to draw up a national strategy to comply with the objectives of the Montreal Protocol in so far as it relates to India. The Country Programme to be drawn up in consultation with the concerned industry is also under preparation, which would detail the kinds of projects which are to be posed for assistance from the Multilateral Fund, in each of the major sectors involved in the production and use of Ozone depleting substances in the country.

Report on Illicit felling of trees in Sangrur Forest Division

1053. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the inquiry into large-scale illicit felling of trees in Sangrur forest division has not been satisfactory according to a news paper reports; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken to unearth the scandal that involves unauthorised cutting of over 25,000 trees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Government of Punjab have conducted an enquiry on the report of illicit felling of trees in Sangrur Forest Division. Details of the case and action taken will be laid on the Table of the House.

Collision between Danish Oil Tanker and Japanese Ship

1054. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a collision between Danish Oil Tanker and Japanese Ship on January 21, 1993 led to spill over of huge amount of oil in the Indian Ocean;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what measures Government have taken so far to prevent the threat to the unique eco-system of the region; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that international response to combat the threat was poor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the early hours of 21st January, 1993, a collision between Danish Oil Tanker MAERSK NAVIGATOR and Japanese Sanko Honour occurred at North Sea off Sumatra in Indonesian waters. MAERSK NAVIGATOR was carrying about 300,000 tonnes of light crude oil from Oman to Japan. This oil slick drifted away to Indian waters.

(c) The following measures have been taken by the Government to tackle the oil spill and to prevent the threat to the unique ecosystem in the region :—